

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Office of Public Affairs

For Immediate Release September 16, 2008 **Contact: Chuck Wolfe**

Chuck.Wolfe@ky.gov

502-564-3419

Gov. Beshear announces Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes funding for northeastern Kentucky

Projects will 'enhance quality of life' for four cities and counties

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Gov. Steve Beshear today announced \$734,000 for sidewalk improvements, new streetscapes and pedestrian path and bike trail improvements in northeastern Kentucky. The funding is part of the Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs and reinforces Gov. Beshear's emphasis on investing in local communities.

"These are investments that will enhance the quality of life in these communities," Gov. Beshear said. "Our administration is committed to supporting the efforts of communities to provide safe, healthy and attractive environments for their citizens."

The TE program offers federal funding for unique and creative approaches that integrate transportation into a community in an environmentally friendly way.

The projects include:

• **City of Morehead** – \$302,300

The Morehead First Street streetscape project will enable the city to replace aging and cracked sidewalks. The city also will add benches, trash receptacles and landscaping.

• Elliott County Fiscal Court – \$295,000

The Elliott County outdoor recreation project seeks to encourage the use of recreational and fitness opportunities by citizens with a two-mile biking and hiking trail. A multi-use shelter already exists in the outdoor recreation center and is surrounded by sandstone cliffs and high quality streams. The county will add lighting, benches, bicycle racks and bathrooms.

• City of Germantown – \$62,200

The Germantown Streetscape Phase II project will allow the city to continue replacing older sidewalks along KY 10 that span several blocks of the downtown area. The project will also include landscaping and scenic beautification improvements.

The federal SRTS program is administered in the commonwealth by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Projects are designed to provide students in kindergarten through eighth grade safe and accessible walking and biking paths to school.

The SRTS project announced today:

• **City of Ewing -** \$74,511

The Ewing Safe Routes to School project will enable students to walk or bike more safely to Ewing Elementary School. The school is also a transition point for some middle and high school students who will also benefit from the project. About 175 students live within a two-mile radius of the school.

"Sometimes smaller, lower-cost improvements can do a great deal to enhance practical and aesthetic appeal," said Transportation Secretary Joe Prather. "Through effective use of our Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes dollars, we are helping communities throughout the commonwealth do great work that will improve life for local citizens."

###